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Lines Worksheet for analysis and design of this live production

1. Describe the *stasis* in the play: where, when, who, what, etc. in a paragraph.

The play is assumingly set in Grand Rapids, but it could be applicable to anywhere in America. There is no cast of characters, as the actors each represent a person from a racial group. They talk of discrimination and the emptiness of the American Dream.

2. What is the *intrusion*?

The intrusion isn't necessarily a set scene in the play, but rather whenever the topic is switched from neighborhoods to beliefs.

3. What is the *unique factor*?

It is set during our current social climate where people like to think racism has gone away, but the play really seeks to challenge this perspective and ultimately ends with the audience realizing that white privilege is still very much prevalent.

4. What is the *dramatic question* that should be answered by the end of the play?

Will society ever be unified? Will racism ever go away?

5. Identify some of the most *theatrical moments* in the play and of what importance they were to you.

The white privilege walk was a very defining moment in the play, I think. Especially because it truly shows how vast white privilege is, and how far it can get you, but it also shows how many people are left behind because of this inherent and apparent racism in our system.

6. List some of the *themes* of the play.

Racism, activism, classism, social prejudice, American Dream, segregation

7. Describe some possible *images* in the play and how does the *title* help us understand the play.

An image in the play is definitely of immigrant workers working in the field, back bent over, making less to nothing in their paychecks. Boxes stand out a lot as well, because not only does it symbolize the ideas that they shuffle around, but how minorities feel boxed in the stereotypes they're given as well as their circumstances due to systematic racism. The title help us understand these images, because it tells us that the lines that separate society from ever truly being in unity and harmony is racism.

8. The production used the stage in a multitude of creative ways to places where the action took place. List some of these that particularly stood out to you.

The boxes were often used to create a scene or help a scene, and I think that's rather creative instead of having a huge environmental backdrop or many furniture plots. Many of the actors would stand on the box to give themselves a platform, or use the box to symbolize themes in a scene such as innocence (like during the hide-and-seek game) or how the play has finished with the boxes being set down.

9. Projections and lighting also played an important role in the performance. Discuss the use of both to achieve the intended effect.

Projections very much helped the play by giving context and information to the audience that helps facilitate the narratives or dialogues the actors were having. The lighting helped the audience find their focus in the sea of actors on the stage. It also helped create the mood for the play, such as dark dramatic lighting for a heated moment or bright red for police brutality.

10. Live and recorded sound played a role in this production. What were some of the memorable uses of these to support the stories that were told.

Drums were quite prominent in the play, especially describing setting such as the more impoverished parts of town. The music will also speed up when the flow of conversation would get more fired up and whatnot. A memorable use of it for me was when they were talking about the white privilege walk, and it got silent to put a stark emphasis on white privilege.



